

Mr. Speaker, as a country we must recognize the emotional pain attached to the Confederate flag, stand strong together and not allow a symbol of hate continue to divide our nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 23, 2015

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 375 (H.R. 160) Medical Innovation Act, had I been present, I would have voted yes.

IN HONOR OF THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF MARTHA ANN ELIZABETH "BROWN" BALL

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 23, 2015

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize Martha Ann Elizabeth "Brown" Ball on her 100th birthday on August 17th.

Mrs. Ball was born in Cleburne County, Alabama on August 17, 1915 to Oscar Sr. and Mattie Brown.

At an early age, she married Omildred (Mill) Ball (deceased) and they had 15 children together including: Willie Ester Ball (deceased), Omildred Ball Jr., Tommy Jay Ball (deceased), Josie Lee Ball (deceased), Lela Francis Blackburn, Shirley Ann McCreary, Exa Lee Bell, Walter Lewis Ball, Susie Ann Jones, Paul Wilford Ball, Cynthia Deloise Ball, Catharine Ball (deceased), Katherine Ball (deceased), Madeley Renay McClendon and Antonio Ball.

Her favorite hobbies include: reading her Bible, quilting, playing dominoes, working crossword puzzles and attending the Senior Citizen Center.

Mrs. Ball sang in the Gospel Truets, a gospel singing group, for over 20 years. Currently she attends church at Sweet Home Baptist Church in the Silver Run community. She is loved by her pastor and church family.

Most people that know her call her "grandma" or "Aunt Martha" and her children say Proverbs 31 best describes Mrs. Ball. Friends and family will celebrate her birthday mid-August.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the life of Mrs. Ball and wishing her a happy 100th birthday.

RECOGNIZING EVA AIRLINES DIRECT FLIGHTS FROM TAIWAN TO HOUSTON

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 23, 2015

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize another step forward in the great relationship between the United States and Taiwan.

This past Friday, June 19th, EVA Air began offering direct flights from Taipei, Taiwan to

Houston, Texas. The inaugural flight, number BR-52, arrived at George Bush Intercontinental Airport shortly after 4:00 pm on June 19th.

This is the beginning of weekly direct flights from Taipei to Houston. In June there will be three flights a week which will be increased to four flights a week in July.

EVA Air is looking to serve the Taiwanese community of the Houston area by offering these direct flights multiple times per week. These communities are an important part of Texas and I am pleased that EVA Air has further facilitated travel between our nations.

EVA Air operates out of Taiwan and is their second largest airline. According to the JACDEC Airline Safety Rankings for 2015 (based on 2014 data), EVA is the 3rd safest airline in the world.

Taiwan and the United States already have an outstanding relationship that was codified with the Taiwan Relations Act (TRA) of 1979. The TRA was created to allow our two nations to foster close ties and specifically "commercial, cultural, and other relations between the people of the United States and the people on Taiwan."

The TRA enables our two nations to work and partner with one another in a way that is unique from all other nations, and these weekly flights between Taiwan and Houston are just the latest example of how compliance with the TRA continues to benefit our citizens 36 years after its passage.

EXPORT-IMPORT BANK

HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 23, 2015

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, as of today, we have only 3 more legislative days to act in order to re-authorize the Export-Import Bank.

Re-authorizing the bank is common sense. Sadly, however, the opponents of the bank are operating out of ideological fervor, not facts. We should be here dealing with and solving real problems, not endangering American jobs with fantastical ideology.

Contrary to the many assertions made against the Bank, the bank is an unbridled, market-driven success story which has long enjoyed bipartisan support and support from both unions and business alike.

The truth of the matter is that the bank is a vital free market economic engine for our manufacturers, exporters and job creators. This March alone, the Bank financed over \$1.1 million dollars in exports in my South Texas District. Additionally, the Bank has supported thousands of jobs in my district over the past five years. These are good jobs in a very high-need area that would not have been possible without the Bank. In my home State of Texas, the Bank has financed \$4 billion worth of exports last year supporting thousands of hard working Americans.

We cannot and should not let the bank expire. Let us put an end to this nonsense. Mr. Speaker, let's have a vote.

HONORING KATHLEEN SHEEHAN

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 23, 2015

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the end of an era at Frontier Regional School in Deerfield, Massachusetts. After 35 years at Frontier, yesterday eighth grade science teacher Kathleen Sheehan retired. Kathy, or Sheehan, as her students call her, over the years wore a variety of hats and held a variety of teaching positions. She has served her entire teaching career at Frontier. Over her 35 years she has held many leadership positions, including Science Department Chair, Middle School Team Leader, Field Hockey Coach, and President of the Frontier's Teacher's Association. Sheehan's impact and influence on the students and communities of Deerfield, Conway, Whately and Sunderland extended far beyond the classroom.

Always challenging her students to make the most of their education both inside and outside of the classroom, Sheehan proved a role model having taken her own advice. In 2003, she earned her law degree from Western New England College School of Law and immediately put her legal skills to use helping other teachers across the Commonwealth through the Massachusetts Teachers Association. She plans to continue this role as she transitions out of the classroom and onto retirement.

Finally, Sheehan's commitment extends not just beyond the classroom, but beyond the school year. As students move on from her middle school classroom, she continues to foster relationships and offer guidance as they navigate high school and plan for college. Once graduated, she continues to stay connected to and support her students. She will happily tell you how many college graduations, advanced-degree graduations, and weddings she has attended of former students. Sheehan values community and has tirelessly integrated herself into that of Western Massachusetts.

As we all know, teachers are a vital asset to society. As a role model for students and teachers alike, Sheehan will leave a legacy behind at Frontier which is unmatched by any other. On behalf of my constituents that attend and have graduated from Frontier Regional School, I thank Kathy Sheehan for her commitment to education, her students and the community.

REGARDING ROLL CALL VOTES
376-378

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 23, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, June 23, 2015, I was unavoidably detained due to the necessity of attending to representational duties and committee responsibilities, including participating in Homeland Security Committee site visits to Family Detention Centers in South Texas. Had I been present I would have voted as follows: